

Religious Gatheka – Hazrat Inayat Khan 23. Rama

This Month's Concentration: Read and contemplate daily for the next several weeks Hazrat Pir-o-Murshid Inayat Khan's lecture: Rama Reflect Daily on the Following Points in Gatheka 23

1. [The] kingdom of God which is hidden in the heart of man. In this respect Rama was not only an ideal of the Hindus of that particular age, but was a model to mould the character of those who tread the spiritual path in any age. (Hazrat Inayat Khan)

Contemplate: What does Hazrat Inayat Khan imply when he says, "to mould the character of those who tread the spiritual path"? Reflections on the teachings of the "art of personality" and "character building" may offer us further insights.

2. ...life [is] a struggle for everyone, in a small way or a big way. The outer nature of the struggle may be different for everyone, but at the same time no one can live in the midst of this world and be without a struggle. In this struggle, the one who wins in the end has fulfilled the purpose of his life, who loses in the end has lost. (Hazrat Inayat Khan)

Contemplate: From this perspective can we see the opportunity and meaningful benefit that struggle gives towards the fulfilment of the "purpose of our life"?

3. The life of Rama suggests that, spiritual strife apart, the struggle in the world is the first thing to face; and if one keeps to one's own ideal through every test and trial in life, one will no doubt arrive at a stage when he will be victorious. It does not matter how small be the struggle, but victory won in the end of every struggle is the power that leads man further on the path towards life's goal. (Hazrat Inayat Khan)

Contemplate: We can ask ourselves, "How do I view the test and trials in my life?" Do I see these tests and trials as developing inner power that supports my life's goal?